



**T H O R N B U R Y T O W N S H I P**  
**D E L A W A R E C O U N T Y**  
**S e w e r C o m m i t t e e**  
6 Township Drive  
Cheyney, PA 19319-1020  
[www.thornbury.org](http://www.thornbury.org)

Ted Jacquet, Chairman  
George Morley, Vice-Chairman

Jack Howley  
Jim O'Brien  
Mike Serth

**MINUTES**  
**Thornbury Township Sewer Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 28, 2012**

The Thornbury Township Sewer Committee held a public meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2012 at the Township Administration Building, 6 Township Drive, Cheyney, Pennsylvania. Chairman Jacquet called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT:** Ted Jacquet, Chairman Jim O'Brien  
Jack Howley Mike Serth

**ABSENT:** George Morley, Vice Chairman

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:** 8

Chairman Jacquet reviewed the Agenda, as follows:

**AGENDA**

1. PUBLIC COMMENT
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 24, 2012
3. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. Brinton Lake Colony & High Point
  - b. Response to Brinton Lake Colony & Highpoint Letters
  - c. Fox Lair
  - d. Conceptual Sewer Layout for Township
4. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Township Manager's Report
  - b. 565 Cheyney Rd. – Mike & Liz Geoghegan
  - c. Sewer Management
5. NEXT MEETING – Thurs., July 26, 2012
6. ADJOURNMENT

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no comments from the public.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 24, 2012:** On a motion by Mr. Howley and seconded by Mr. Jacquet, all members present voted “aye” to approve the May 24, 2012 minutes, as amended. Mr. Serth and Mr. O'Brien abstained, as they were absent at that meeting.

**3. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Brinton Lake Colony & High Point:** Mr. Jacquet reported that letters were mailed to the residents asking for their feedback regarding their interest in bringing public sewers to their neighborhood. After the July Sewer Committee meeting, based on the survey responses a recommendation will be made to the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Out of 49 letters, 10 have responded. The best conceptual estimate is based on what the Township spent in other areas.

Mr. Shell, 22 Fox Lair, asked if it was mandatory to hook up. Mr. Jacquet stated that it was not, but other townships require hooking up. Mr. Shell asked if the infrastructure cost will increase. Mr. Jacquet replied that until bids are received, the infrastructure cost is only an estimate.

Mr. Winch, 59 Carter, felt that everyone should be charged the same amount. Mr. Jacquet explained that contractors were hungry for work when WSSD-2 was bid. Mr. Winch asked why low-pressure, instead of gravity, was stated in the letter. Mr. Jacquet stated that the Township's sewer engineers considered both systems and low-pressure was preferred as the cost for gravity was 3 times more than low-pressure.

Mr. Whelan, 3 Highpoint, asked where the grinder pump goes. Mr. Jacquet stated that it is buried underground and only the top is visible above ground. Mr. Whelan asked if the Colony and Highpoint would be 1 entity. Mr. Jacquet concurred. Mr. Whelan what happens if Highpoint was pro public sewers and the Colony was con. Mr. Jacquet stated that according to the feedback from the survey letter, the Township may be able to put in pockets of public sewers, rather than sewer the entire area.

Mr. Shell asked why the plastic pump couldn't be installed in his existing concrete septic tank. Mr. Jacquet stated that the system is pressurized with safety controls, but would investigate that possibility.

Mr. Geoghegan, 565 Cheyney, asked if he could use his current system as a back-up. Mr. Jacquet stated that his system must be emptied and filled with dirt, and suggested he check with DEP.

Mr. Shell asked how large a tank he could get. Mr. Howley stated that a dual system is possible, but was cost prohibitive for him, so instead he wired his system to his generator. Mr. Howley stated the 1<sup>st</sup> year or 2, maintenance is free and after that it costs about \$100/yr.

Mr. Whelan asked what happens if everyone on Highpoint wanted the infrastructure, but no one wanted to hook up right away. Mr. Jacquet

explained that the Township could reserve space with Concord Twp. and once the tap-in fee is paid, your space is reserved, even though you are not hooked up. Mr. Jacquet did not know what percentage of positive responses was needed by the BOS to initiate the infrastructure process.

Mr. Winch asked if homes on Lake Dr who have already hooked up will be charged. Mr. Jacquet stated no, as they would not be part of this new district, they are part of a different district. Mr. Winch then discussed the 2 laterals and a manhole behind his home. Mr. Jacquet's map did not show the laterals or the manhole. Mr. O'Brien stated that if there is a lateral behind your home, you can tie into it, but it would be at your expense. Mr. Jacquet stated he would speak with the engineers regarding this. Mr. Winch asked if those who put in new systems get special consideration. Mr. Jacquet stated no.

Mr. Whelan asked if there will be pressure from the Township to hook up once the infrastructure is in. Mr. Jacquet stated that the Township will not force anyone to hook up. Mr. Whelan asked if it was about \$11,000 per lot. Mr. Jacquet concurred. Mr. Whelan asked about the possible development of the Craig Farm. Mr. Jacquet was unaware if public sewers were planned for the development of the Craig Farm.

Per Mr. Geoghegan's request, Mrs. Zitarelli handed Mr. Geoghegan some written information.

- b. Response to Brinton Lake Colony & Highpoint Letters:** Mr. Jacquet noted that out of 49 letters, 10 have responded.
- c. Fox Lair:** Mr. Jacquet stated that this project is moving forward, as the Township approved the resolution at their last meeting. Documents will be sent to the State next week. The start date is about Dec. or Jan., depending on the weather, and completion is expected around May or earlier with good weather.
- d. Conceptual Sewer Layout for Township:** Mr. Jacquet felt that a conceptual plan would be helpful, as he has received inquiries from residents in the eastern part of the Township. Mr. O'Brien felt money should not be spent unless needed and felt that a budget should be strictly followed to run a line to pick up the most houses. Mr. Serth felt a conceptual plan/map may generate more interest and many people don't realize how close they are to infrastructure. There was a consensus for Mr. Jacquet to ask the BOS if the Township could obtain a quote from Pennoni, and if reasonable, to move forward on a conceptual sewer layout of some areas. Mr. Jacquet noted receiving inquiries from

Locksley Rd., Skyline Dr. and the Glen Mills Rd. and Thornton historic area. Mr. Jacquet felt it was time to find out how many of them are interested. Mr. Howley felt that going door-to-door worked well before. Mr. Jacquet felt that historic Thornton should be the next area surveyed. Mr. Shell suggested putting the plan/map on the Township's web site. Mr. Jacquet stated that he would look into it.

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Township Manager's Report:** No report was presented.

**b. 565 Cheyney Rd. – Mike & Liz Geoghegan:** Mr. Geoghegan stated he came to obtain feasibility and cost information to connect to public sewer. Mr. Jacquet explained that there is a sewer line up Cheyney Rd. that Mr. Burkholder put in when he built his house. Mr. Jacquet suggested that Mr. Geoghegan talk to his neighbors south on Cheyney Rd. to see if any are interested, which would reduce his infrastructure cost. In going north, he'd have to pay for it all. Mr. Jacquet did not know if Concord Twp. would allow him to tie-in. Mr. Jacquet also suggested that Liz call the Township for a list of approved contractors to contact.

**c. Sewer Management:** Mr. Jacquet handed out information on sewer management programs and asked the members to review it for the next meeting in order to formulate a policy to recommend to the BOS.

**5. NEXT MEETING:** Thurs., July 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Howley requested more space in the next newsletter to expand sewer information. Mr. Jacquet thanked Mr. Howley on his previous newsletter article.

**6. ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Mr. Howley and seconded by Mr. Serth, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Zitarelli  
Sewer Committee Secretary

cc: Sewer Committee Members  
Board of Supervisors  
James McCann, PE, Township Sewer Engineer  
Jeffrey Seagraves, Township Manager  
Geoff Carbutt, Subdivision Coordinator

Justin Scarth, Pennoni Associates  
Lloyd Noll, Township Sewer Engineer  
Robert P. Anderman, Esq.  
Suzanne Howat, Bookkeeper